DI'FFIDENCE. *n. ſ.* [from *diffide.*] Diſtruſt; want of confidence; timidity.

No man almoſt thought himſelf ſecure, and men durſt ſcarce commune or talk one with another; but there was a general *diffidence* every where. *Bacon's Henry* VII.

You have brought ſcandal
To Iſrael, *diffidence* of God, and doubt
In feeble hearts, propenſe enough before
To waver. *Milton's Agoniſtes.*

If the evidence of its being, or that this is its true ſenſe, be only on probable proofs, our aſſent can reach no higher than an aſſurance or *diffidence*, ariſing from the more or leſs apparent probability of the proofs. *Locke.*

Be ſilent always, when you doubt your ſenſe;
And ſpeak, though ſure, with ſeeming *diffidence.* *Pope.*

Whatſoever atheiſts think on, or whatſoever they look on, all do adminiſter ſome reaſons for ſuſpicion and *diffidence*, leaſt poſſibly they may be in the wrong; and then it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. *Bentley's Serm.*

DI'FFIDENT. *adj.* [from *diffide.*] Not confident; not certain; diſtruſtful.

I am not ſo confident of my own ſufficiency as not willingly to admit the counſel of others; but yet I am not ſo *diffident* of myſelf, as brutiſhly to ſubmit to any man's dictates. *K. Charles.*

Be not *diffident*
Of wiſdom; ſhe deſerts thee not, if thou
Diſmiſs not her, when moſt thou need'ſt her nigh. *Milton.*

I was really ſo *diffident* of it, as to let it lie by me theſe two years, juſt as you now ſee it. *Pope.*

Pliny ſpeaks of the Seres, the ſame people with the Chineſe, as being very ſhy and *diffident* in their manner of dealing. *Arbuthnot.*

Diſtreſs makes the humble heart *diffident.* *Clariſſa.*

To DIFFI'ND. *v. a.* [*diffindo*, Latin.] To cleave in two; to ſplit. *Dict.*

DIFFI'SION. *n. ſ.* [*diffiſio*, Latin.] The act of cleaving or ſplitting. *Dict.*

DIFFLA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*diffloro*, Latin.] The act of ſcattering with a blaſt of wind. *Dict.*

DI'FFLUENCE. } *n. ſ.* [from *diffluo*, Latin.] The quality of
DI'FFLUENCY. } falling away on all ſides; the effect of fluidity; the contrary to conſiſtency.

Ice is water congealed by the frigidity of the air, whereby it acquireth no new form; but rather a conſiſtence or determination of its *diffluency*, and omitteth not its eſſence, but condition of fluidity. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b. ii. c. 1.*

DI'FFLUENT. *adj.* [*diffluens*, Latin.] Flowing every way; not conſiſtent; not fixed.

DI'FFORM. *adj.* [from *forma*, Latin.] Contrary to uniform; having parts of different ſtructure; diſſimilar; unlike; irregular; as a *diſform* flower, one of which the leaves are unlike each other.

The unequal refractions of *diſform* rays proceed not from any contingent irregularities; ſuch as are veins, an uneven poliſh, or fortuitous poſition of the pores of glaſs. *Newton.*

DIFFO'RMITY. *n. ſ* [from *diſform.*] Diverſity of form; irregularity; diſſimilitude.

While they murmur againſt the preſent diſpoſure of things, they reſt not in their eſtabliſhed natures; but deſire in them a *diſformity* from the primitive rule, and the idea of that mind, that formed all things beſt. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b. i. c. 11.*

DIFFRA'NCHISEMENT. *n. ſ.* [*franchiſe*, French.] The act of taking away the privileges of a city.

To DIFFU'SE. *v. a.* [*diffuſus*, Latin.]

1. To pour out upon a plane, ſo that the liquor may run every way.

When theſe waters began to riſe at firſt, long before they could ſwell to the height of the mountains, they would *diffuſe* themſelves every way. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

2. To ſpread; to ſcatter; to diſperſe.

Wiſdom had ordain'd
Good out of evil to create; inſtead
Of ſpirits malign, a better race to bring
Into their vacant room, and thence *diffuſe*
His good to worlds, and ages, infinite. *Milton's Par. Loſt.*

No ſect wants its apoſtles to propagate and *diffuſe* it. *Decay of Piety.*

A chief renown'd in war,
Whoſe race ſhall bear aloft the Latian name,
And through the conquer'd world *diffuſe* our fame. *Dryden.*

His eyes *diffus'd* a venerable grace,
And charity itſelf was in his face. *Dryden's Good Parſon.*

DIFFU'SE. *adj.* [*diffuſus*, Latin.]

1. Scattered; widely ſpread.
2. Copious; not conciſe.

DIFFU'SED. *participial adj.* [from *diffuſe*] This word ſeems to have ſignified, in *Shakeſpeare's* time, the ſame as wild, uncouth, irregular.

Let them from forth a ſawpitruſh at once,
With ſome *diffuſed* ſong. *Shakeſ. Merry Wives of Windſor.*

He grows like ſavages,
To ſwearing and ſtern looks, *diffus'd* attire,
And every thing that ſeems unnatural. *Shakeſp. Henry* V.

DIFFU'SEDLY. *adv.* [from *diffuſed.*] Widely; diſperſedly; in manner of that which is ſpread every way.

DIFFU'SEDNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *diffuſed.*] The ſtate of being diffuſed; diſperſion.

DIFFU'SELY. *adv.* [from *diffuſe.*]

1. Widely; extenſively.
2. Copioully; not conciſely.

DIFFU'SION. *n. ſ.* [from *diffuſe.*]

1. Diſperſion; the ſtate of being ſcattered every way.

Whereas all bodies act either by the communication of their natures, or by the impreſſions and ſignatures of their motions, the *diffuſion* of ſpecies viſible ſeemeth to participate more of the former operation, and the ſpecies audible of the latter. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 269.

A ſheet of very well ſleaked marbled paper did not caſt diſtinct colours upon the wall, nor throw its light with an equal *diffuſion*; but threw its beams, unſtained and bright, to this and that part of the wall. *Boyle on Colours.*

2. Copiouſneſs; exuberance of ſtile.

DIFFU'SIVE. *adj.* [from *diffuſe.*]

1. Having the quality of ſcattering any thing every way.

Diffuſive of themſelves, where-e'er they paſs
They make that warmth in others they expect:
Their valour works like bodies on a glaſs,
And does its image on their men project. *Dryd. Ann. Mir.*

2. Scattered; diſperſed; having the quality of ſuffering diffuſion.

No man is of ſo general and *diffuſive* a luſt as to proſecute his amours all the world over. *South's Sermons.*

The ſtars, no longer overlaid with weight,
Exert their heads from underneath the maſs,
And upward ſhoot and kindle as they paſs,
And with *diffuſive* light adorn their heav'nly place. *Dryden.*

Cheriſh'd with hope, and fed with joy it grows;
Its cheerful buds their opening bloom diſcloſe,
And round the happy foil *diffuſive* odour flows. *Prior.*

3. Extended; in full extenſion.

They are not agreed among themſelves where infallibility is ſeated; whether in the pope alone, or a council alone, or in both together, or in the *diffuſive* body of Chriſtians. *Tillot.*

DIFFU'SIVELY. *adv.* [from *diffuſive.*] Widely; extenſively; every way.

DIFFU'SIVENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *diffuſive.*]

1. Extenſion; diſperſion; the power of diffuſing; the ſtate of being diffuſed.
2. Want of conciſeneſs; large compaſs of expreſſion.

The fault that I find with a modern legend, is its *diffuſiveneſs*: you have ſometimes the whole ſide of a medal overrun with it. *Addiſon on Ancient Medals.*

To DIG. *v. a.* preter. *dug*, or *digged*; part. paſſ. *dug*, or *digged.* [*dic*, Saxon, a ditch; *dyger*, Daniſh, to dig.]

1. To pierce with a ſpade.

Then ſaid he unto me, Son of man, *dig* now in the wall; and when I had *digged* in the wall, I beheld a door. *Ezek.* viii. 8.

2. To form by digging.

Seek with heart and mouth to build up the walks of Jeruſalem, which you have broken down; and to fill up the mines that you have *digged* by craft and ſubtlety, to overthrow the ſame. *Whitgift.*

He built towers in the deſert, and *digged* many wells; for he had much cattle. 2 *Chro.* xxvi. 10.

3. To cultivate the ground by turning it with a ſpade.

The walls of your garden, without their furniture, look as ill as thoſe of your houſe; ſo that you cannot *dig* up your garden too often. *Temple.*

Be firſt to *dig* the ground, be firſt to burn
The branches lopt. *Dryden's Virg. Georg.* ii.

4. To pierce with a ſharp point.

A rav'nous vulture in his open'd ſide,
Her crooked beak and cruel talons try'd;
Still for the growing liver *digg'd* his breaſt,
The growing liver ſtill ſupply'd the feaſt. *Dryden's Æn.*

5. To gain by digging.

It is *digged* out of even the higheſt mountains, and indeed all other parts of the earth contingently and indifferently; as the pyrites. *Woodward.*

Nor was the ground alone requir'd to bear
Her annual income to the crooked ſhare;
But greedy mortals, rummaging her ſtore,
Digg'd from her entrails firſt the precious ore. *Dryd Ovid.*

To DIG. *v. a.* To work with a ſpade; to work in making holes, or turning the ground.

They long for death, but it cometh not; and *dig* for it more than for hid treaſures. *Job* iii. 21.

They have often *dug* into lands that are deſcribed in old authors, as the places where ſuch particular ſtatues or obeliſks ſtood, and have ſeldom failed of ſucceſs in their purſuits. *Addiſon's Travels.*

To DIG *up. v. a.* To throw up that which is covered with earth.

If I *dig'd up* thy foreſather's graves,
And hung their rotten coffins up in chains,
It would not ſlake mine ire. *Shak. H.* VI.

DI'GERENT. *adj.* [*digerens*, Latin.] That which has the power of digeſting, or cauſing digeſtion. *Dict.*

DIGE'ST. *n. ſ.* [*digeſta*, Latin.] The pandect of the civil law, containing the opinions of the ancient lawyers.

I had a purpoſe to make a particular *digeſt*, or recompilement of the laws of mine own nation. *Bacon.*

Laws in the *digeſt* ſhew that the Romans applied themſelves to trade. *Arbuthnot on Coins.*

To DIGE'ST. *v. a.* [*digero*, *digeſtum*, Latin.]

1. To diſtribute into various claſſes or repoſitories; to range or diſpoſe methodically.
2. To concoct in the ſtomach, ſo as that the various particles of food may be applied to their proper uſe.

If little faults, proceeding on diſtemper,
Shall not be wink'd at, how ſhall we ſtretch our eye,
When capital crimes, chew'd, ſwallow'd, and *digeſted*,
Appear. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* V.

Each then has organs to *digeſt* his food;
One to beget, and one receive the brood. *Prior.*

3. To ſoften by heat, as in a boiler, or in a dunghil: a chemical term.
4. To range methodically in the mind; to apply knowledge by meditation to its proper uſe.

A few choſen friends, who ſometimes deign
To bleſs my humble roof, with ſenſe refin'd,
Learning *digeſted* well. *Thomſon's Winter, l.* 550.

5. To reduce to any plan, ſcheme, or method.

Our play
Leaps o'er the vaunt and firſtlings of thoſe broils,
'Ginning i' th' middle: ſtarting thence away,
To what may be *digeſted* in a play. *Shakeſ. Troil. and Creſſid.*

6. To receive without loathing or repugnance; not to reject.

Firſt, let us go to dinner.
—Nay, let me praiſe you while I have a ſtomach.
—No, pray thee, let it ſerve for table talk;
Then howſoe'er thou ſpeak'ſt, 'mong other things
I ſhall *digeſt* it. *Shakeſpeare's Merchant of Venice.*

The pleaſance of numbers, that rudeneſs and barbariſm might the better taſte and *digeſt* the leſſons of civility. *Peacham.*

7. To receive and enjoy.

Cornwal and Albany,
With my two daughters dowers, *digeſt* the third. *Shakeſp.*

8. [In chirurgery.] To diſpoſe a wound; to generate pus in order to a cure.

To DIGE'ST. *v. n.* To generate matter as a wound, and tend to a cure.

DIGE'STER. *n. ſ.* [from *digeſt.*]

1. He that digeſts or concocts his food.

People that are bilious and fat, rather than lean, are great eaters and ill *digeſters.* *Arbuthnot on Coins.*

2. A ſtrong veſſel or engine, contrived by M. Papin, wherein to boil, with a very ſtrong heat, any bony ſubſtances, ſo as to reduce them into a fluid ſtate. *Quincy.*

3. That which cauſes or ſtrengthens the concoctive power.

Rice is of excellent uſe for all illneſſes of the ſtomach, a great reſtorer of health, and a great *digeſter.* *Temple.*

DIGE'STIBLE. *adj* [from *digeſt.*] That which is capable of being digeſted or concocted in the ſtomach.

Thoſe medicines that purge by ſtool enter not into the meſentery veins; but are, at the firſt, not *digeſtible* by the ſtomach, and therefore move immediately downwards to the guts. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 43.

DIGE'STION. *n. ſ.* [from *digeſt.*]

1. The act of digeſting or concocting food in the ſtomach.

Now good *digeſtion* wait on appetite,
And health on both. *Shakeſpeare's Macbeth.*

Digeſtion is a fermentation begun, becauſe there are all the requiſites of ſuch a fermentation; heat, air, and motion: but it is not a complete fermentation, becauſe that requires a greater time than the continuance of the aliment in the ſtomach: vegetable putrefaction reſembles very much animal *digeſtion.* *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

Quantity of food cannot be determined by meaſures and weights, or any general Leſſian rules; but muſt vary with the vigour or decays of age or of health, and the uſe or diſuſe of air or of exerciſe, with the changes of appetite; and then, by what every man may find or ſuſpect of the preſent ſtrength or weakneſs of *digeſtion.* *Temple.*

Every morſel to a ſatisfied hunger, is only a new labour to a tired *digeſtion.* *South's Sermons.*

2. The preparation of matter by a chemical heat.

We conceive, indeed, that a perfect good concoction, or *digeſtion*, or maturation of ſome metals, will produce gold. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 327.

Did chymick chance the furnaces prepare,
Raiſe all the labour-houſes of the air,
And lay crude vapours in *digeſtion* there. *Blackmore.*

3. Reduction to a plan; the act of methodiſing; the maturation of a ſcheme.

The *digeſtion* of the counſels in Swedan is made in ſenate, conſiſting of forty counſellors, who are generally the greateſt men. *Temple.*

4. The act of diſpoſing a wound to generate matter.
5. The diſpoſition of a wound or ſore to generate matter.

DIGE'STIVE. *adj.* [from *digeſt.*]

1. Having the power to cauſe digeſtion, or to ſtrengthen the ſtomach.

A chilifactory menſtruum, or a *digeſtive* preparation, drawn from ſpecies or individuals, whoſe ſtomachs peculiarly diſſolve lapideous bodies. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b. ii. c.* 5.

2. Capable by heat to ſoften and ſubdue.

The earth and ſun were in that very ſame ſtate; the one active, piercing, and *digeſtive* by its heat; the other paſſive, receptive, and ſtored with materials for ſuch a production. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

3. Conſiderating; methodiſing.

To buſineſs, ripen'd by *digeſtive* thought,
This future rule is into method brought. *Dryden.*

DIGE'STIVE. *n. ſ.* [from *digeſt.*] An application which diſpoſes a wound to generate matter.

I dreſſed it with *digeſtives.* *Wiſeman of Aſſeſſes.*

DI'GGER. *n. ſ.* [from *dig.*] One that opens the ground with a ſpade.

When we viſited mines, we have been told by *diggers*, that even when the ſky ſeemed clear, there would ſuddenly ariſe a ſteam ſo thick, that it would put out their candles. *Boyle.*

To DIGHT. *v. a.* [*bihtan*, to prepare, to regulate, Saxon.] To dreſs; to deck; to bedeck; to embelliſh; to adorn.

On his head his dreadful hat he *dight*,
Which maketh him inviſible to ſight. *Hubberd's Tale.*

Let my due feet never fail
To walk the ſtudious cloiſters pale,
And love the high embowed roof,
With antick pillar maſſy proof,
And ſtoried windows richly *dight*,
Caſting a dim religious light. *Milton.*

Juſt ſo the proud inſulting laſs
Array'd and *dighted* Hudibras. *Hudibras, p. i. cant.* 3.

DI'GIT. *n. ſ.* [*digitus*, Latin.]

1. The meaſure of length containing three fourths of an inch.

If the inverted tube of mercury be but twenty-five *digits* high, or ſomewhat more, the quickſilver will not fall, but remain ſuſpended in the tube, becauſe it cannot preſs the ſubjacent mercury with ſo great a force as doth the incumbent cylinder of the air, reaching thence to the top of the atmoſphere. *Boyle's Spring of the Air.*

2. The twelfth part of the diameter of the ſun or moon.
3. Any of the numbers expreſſed by ſingle figures; any number to ten.

Not only the number ſeven and nine, from conſiderations abſtruſe, have been extolled by moſt, but all or moſt of other *digits* have been as myſtically applauded. *Brown's Vulg. Errours.*

DI'GITATED. *adj.* [from *digitus*, Latin.] Branched out into diviſions like fingers; as a *digitated* leaf is a leaf compoſed of many ſmall leaves.

For animals multifidous, or ſuch as are *digitated*, or have ſeveral diviſions in their feet, there are but two that are uniparous; that is, men and elephants. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

DIGLADIA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*digladiatio*, Latin.] A combat with ſwords; any quarrel or conteſt.

Ariſtotle ſeems purpoſely to intend the cheriſhing of controverſial *digladiations*, by his own affection of an intricate obſcurity. *Glanv. Sceſ. c.* 19.

DI'GNIFIED. *adj.* [from *dignify.*] Inveſted with ſome dignity: it is uſed chiefly of the clergy.

Abbots are ſtiled *dignified* clerks, as having ſome dignity in the church. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

DIGNIFICA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *dignify.*]

I grant that where a noble and ancient deſcent and merit meet in any man, it is a double *dignification* of that perſon. *Walton's Angler.*

To DI'GNIFY. *v. a.* [from *dignus* and *facio*, Latin.]

1. To advance; to prefer; to exalt. Uſed chiefly of the clergy.
2. To honour; to adorn; to give luſtre.

Such a day,
So fought, ſo follow'd, and ſo fairly won,
Came not 'till now to *dignify* the times,
Since Cæſar's fortunes! *Shakeſpeare's Henry* IV.

Not that we think us worthy ſuch a gueſt,
But your worth will *dignify* our feaſt. *Ben. Johnſon's Epigr.*

No turbots *dignify* my boards;
But gudgeons, flounders, what my Thames affords. *Pope.*

DI'GNITARY. *n. ſ.* [from *dignus*, Latin.] A clergyman advanced to ſome dignity; to ſome rank above that of a parochial prieſt.

If there be any *dignitaries*, whoſe preferments are perhaps not liable to the accuſation of ſuperfluity, they may be perſons of ſuperior merit. *Swift.*

DI'GNITY. *n. ſ.* [*dignitas*, Latin.]

1. Rank of elevation.

Angels are not any where ſpoken ſo highly of as our Lord and